

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The present application contains claims 1-34 which have been made subject to a restriction requirement.

The acceptance of the drawings filed August 27, 2004 is duly noted.

The acknowledgement of the claim for foreign priority and the fact that certified copies of all the priority documents have been received are duly noted.

The restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. Section 121 is hereby both fully and partially traversed for the following reasons:

It is submitted that the examination of all 34 claims of the present application as a single group will work in economy to the benefit of both the Patent Office and the Applicant since the examination and prosecution will be limited to one application instead of four applications, as proposed by the Examiner.

The restriction requirement is also partially traversed for the following reasons:

The claims of Group II, namely claims 7-10 and 24-34 and the claims 11-13 set forth in Group III claim substantially the same subject matter. More specifically, claims 7-10 and 24-34 recite that the light exclusion members, while overlapped at their escape positions displaced from the opening, are rotated through different angles from their escape positions to their shielding positions to shield the opening. Claims 11-13 recite the shutter blades as moving through different

distances which, it is submitted, is an alternative way of expressing the operation of the shutter blades in claims 7-10 and 24-34. For these reasons it is submitted that the claims of Groups II and III, namely claims 7-10, 24-34 and 11-13, are directed to the same invention and should be examined in a common application.

In order to be fully responsive to the restriction requirement, applicant hereby provisionally elects the claims of Group IV, namely claims 14-21, for examination on the merits.

In addition, in the event that the total traversal of the restriction requirement is repeated, applicant further wishes to advise that only Mr. Tatsuo Takanashi is the inventor for the invention set forth in the claims of Group IV, namely claims 14-21.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. Section 1.48(b), Applicant will file a request to correct the inventorship that identifies certain of the named inventors being deleted except for Mr. Takanashi and acknowledging that the invention of the inventors being deleted is no longer being claimed in the nonprovisional application, if and when claims 1-13 and 22-34 of this provisional application are canceled.

Applicant submits herewith a new Supplemental Application Data Sheet to conform with the title of the Substitute Application, the Certified Translation and the title as recited in both the Assignment document and the Declaration Document and requests that this Supplemental Application Data Sheet be made of record in

Applicant: Shiratori et al.
Application No.: 10/714,148

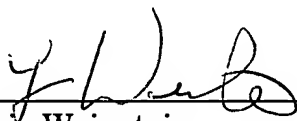
the present application and substituted for the Application Data Sheet originally filed.

In view of the foregoing examination and allowance of claims 1-34 of this application, or alternatively claims 14-21, are earnestly solicited.

Favorable action is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

Shiratori et al.

By 
Louis Weinstein
Registration No. 20,477
(215) 568-6400

Volpe and Koenig, P.C.
United Plaza, Suite 1600
30 South 17th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

LW/bbf
Enclosures